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Northwest considers landmark merger

Hubbard: 'I think we're better off as part of the University of Missouri system'

By KARA SWINK
WEB LIAISON

Administrators went public with discussions that Northwest is exploring an opportunity to join the University of Missouri system during a press conference Monday afternoon.

University President Dean Hubbard and UM system President Elson Floyd discussed the plans already underway for the possible merge.

Northwest would be the first in 40 years to join the System, which would unite the University with the campuses in Columbia, Kansas City, St. Louis and Rolla.

"This is a really exciting time not only for the (UM system) for but also for Northwest Missouri State University as well," Floyd said. "It's exciting because we are paving new ground."

Discussions about the merger became serious April 2 when President Hubbard called his Cabinet together to discuss the possibility and later when Provost Taylor Barnes called an emergency Faculty Senate meeting April 5 to share the Cabinet's news.

Hubbard explained a merge was not a thought that just "occurred momentarily," but one that's been in discussion for seven years. He said it would help the University accomplish long-term goals.

"We want to build on the strengths we've received over the years," Hubbard said. "(The merge) opens up enormous possibilities for enrichment of our curriculum and improving the efficiency of our curriculum."

Floyd and Hubbard want the public to understand that

the universities have not approached the ideas as strangers. Northwest, the University of Missouri, Truman State University and Central Missouri State University became partners April 2 to offer graduate programs that are not available in areas of northern Missouri.

Northwest also offers graduate-level degree programs from the University of Missouri, including a master's in engineering management, an educational leadership doctorate and a master's in social work.

"The relationship is not a new relationship," Floyd said. "It's been a longstanding relationship. We do share responsibility to make sure we provide the highest quality of education for Missourians. That's what this relationship is all about."

In the past few days, Floyd said he has gotten positive responses from key legislators. He also said that negotiation is underway, but, before legislators can vote, Northwest's Board of Regents (Please see 'Merger' page 5A)

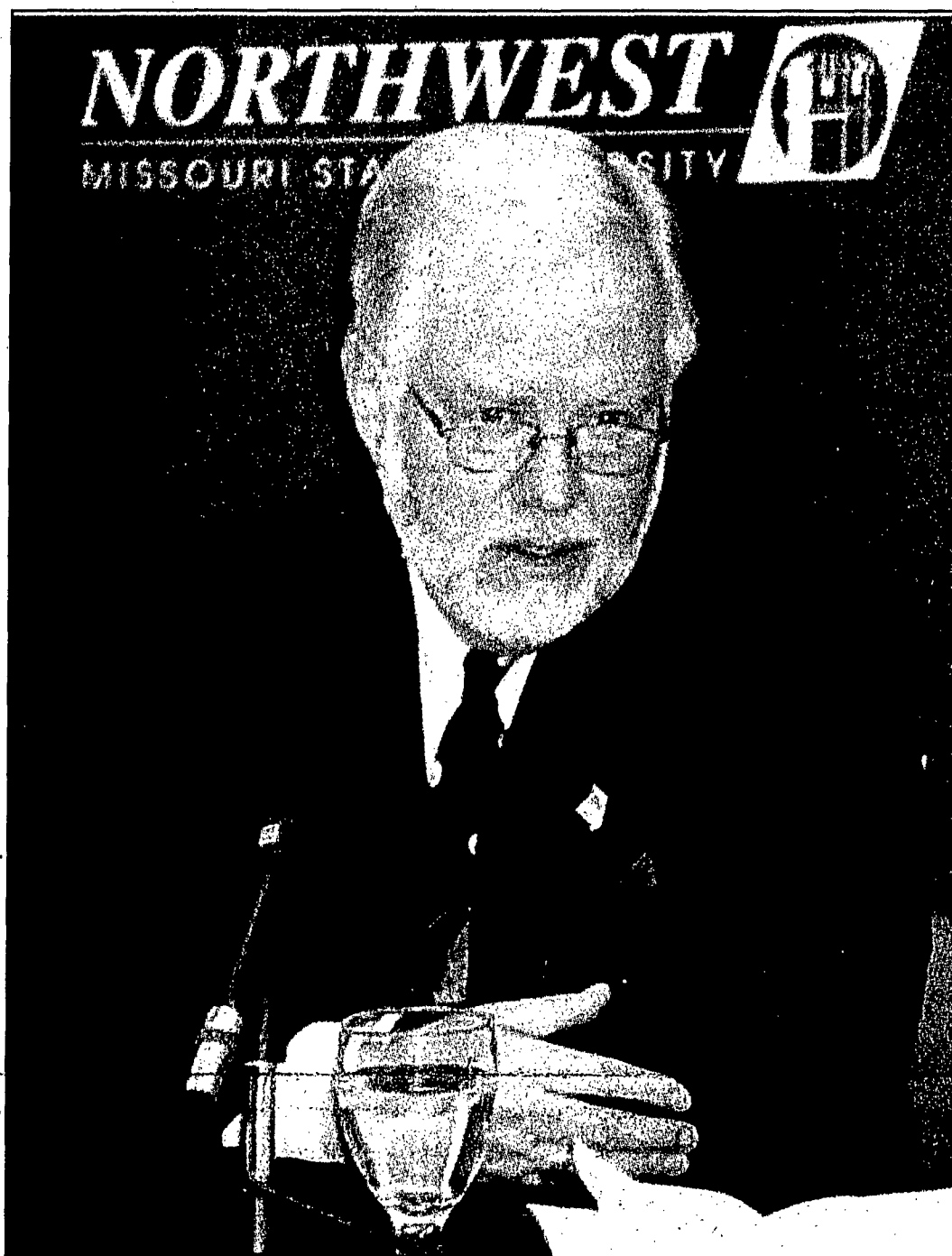


PHOTO BY COLEYOUNG/ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR
Northwest president Dean Hubbard answers a question during Monday's press conference about a possible merger with the University of Missouri system. "What I see, this will become a way of life for students who come here."



PHOTO BY ABBY SIMONS/MANAGING EDITOR
Lauren Leach, assistant professor of family and consumer sciences, expresses her support for the possible merger, but also voices concern. "This is exciting, but at the same time, I have questions I want you to consider."

Students, faculty sound off at town hall meeting

Concerns and support arise from Northwest community

By KARA SWINK
WEB LIAISON

The Northwest family gathered together to voice opinions and concerns at a town hall meeting Monday after administrators announced the potential plans to consolidate with the University of Missouri system.

More than 400 people attended to express concerns regarding tuition hikes, faculty decision input, enrollment, traditions and the urgency the administration is placing on the proposal.

University President Dean Hubbard addressed the audience on why the merge would be the best decision for Northwest. (Please see 'Town Hall' page 5A)

Next week...

The *Missourian* will follow up on the possible merger with the results of the Board of Regents meeting. Also, be sure to watch for a story on the student body's opinion of the merger.

Student regent Paul Klute and Student Senate are sponsoring a campus forum for questions, answers and concerns about the possible UM merger today. Tom Vansaghi and Kent Porterfield will be presenting and fielding questions.

Time: 4 p.m.
Place: Student Union Family room

Group looks into new restaurant

Local restaurants may have competition as group looks to bring Applebee's to town

By SARAH ELIZABETH DITTMANN
COPY EDITOR

Maryville residents may soon have another option when it comes to eating out.

Concord Hospitality, a retail development company, owns the rights to develop an Applebee's in the town of Maryville.

A spokeswoman for the company said, "We're currently looking for a site (in Maryville) very aggressively."

She said they have no specific timeframe for the development of an Applebee's, but she gave an estimate of six to 12 months.

"It is only a matter of time," she said. Right now, the company is looking for land in Maryville upon which to build, and once a site is found,



Proposition 2 passes vote by landslide

Vote allows school to be renovated

By ALEXI GROOMOUTIS
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

At 5:45 a.m. Wednesday, R-II school district Superintendent Jay Reese awoke to a much anticipated phone call.

Proposition 2 had passed. Proposition 2 is the bond issue proposal that will provide the R-II school district with \$7.35 million dollars to renovate and expand the Eugene Field Elementary School and the Maryville High School.

Reese said he was pleased with the early morning news.

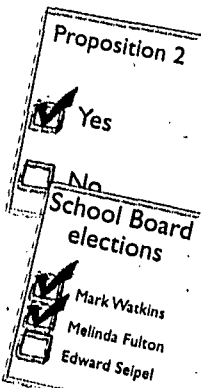
"Thank you, thank you, thank you to all the people who helped put this project to-

gether," Reese said. "They've all done a super job."

Reese said he was hopeful the public would respond to the critical safety needs affecting Maryville students.

"I had been cautiously optimistic," Reese said. "We have a very supportive community, not just for our district but more so for our students. It's sure nice to get the final results and have it come out the way it did."

Reese said the unofficial count for voter turnout was 1,775. (Please see 'Proposition 2' page 5A)



Election not without its troubles

By STEPHANIE SUCKOW
COMMUNITY NEWS EDITOR

School board and City Council members as well as other school officials awaiting election results Tuesday were forced to sleep an extra night without answers thanks to complications with a voting scanner.

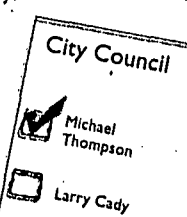
City officials initially expected the results to be set back only two hours, but they were unable to fix the scanner and were forced to call an expert from Omaha, Neb.

After the mechanic discovered the machine was beyond repair, city officials were required to count more than 1,000 votes by hand.

a.m. to candidates nervously waiting to see if they had been elected.

"Personally, I felt confident, or else I wouldn't have ran," said Mike Thompson, re-elected City Council member. "But when you get right down to it, there's still that standard pre-election anxiety that you go through, which made it hard to wait."

Thompson said he is excited to once again serve on the Council because he believes Maryville is in a well-placed position. (Please see 'Troubles' page 5A)



Senate president vote to close Friday

Lakebrink and Dix in the running to replace current president Karsen

By PETE GUTSCHENRITTER
& MARK EUSTON

As the Northwest student body went onto WebStar to vote for new Student Senate cabinet members, a major shift could rift through the University.

Sophomore John Lakebrink is running for president after he introduced a constitution reconfiguration while Secretary Emily Dix is also vying for the position. The winner of the election may determine the format of next fall's Senate.

"I think the election does have a big impact (on the constitution proposal), and the constitution does have a big impact on the election," Lakebrink said. "As far as our candidates are concerned, we stand on a specific party platform."

Lakebrink is running with vice president candidate Jess Sciortino, who is currently an on-campus representative. Dix (Please see 'Senate' page 5A)

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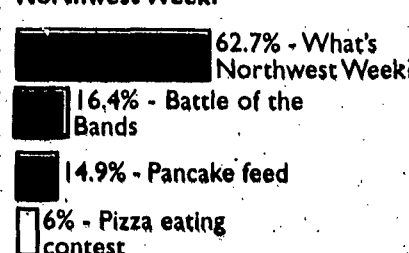
Julian answers the long sought after question of "chillin' like a villain," whether "boy-friends" make good boy-friends and if size matters when the person has a personality. He will reveal all in this week's Ask Julian.



If you have trouble dealing with your anger, maybe you should check out the review of "Anger Management" on the Buzz Friday afternoon.

Poll question:

What was your favorite part of Northwest Week?



This week's poll question:

Do you think students should have a voice in the decision to merge with the Missouri system?

Yes
No
I don't care, I am graduating
What's this merge thing?

Greeks join together to celebrate festivities

Greek Week brings unity among Northwest fraternities and sororities

By MICHELLE STACY
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

This year's annual Greek Week gave the Greek community a chance to come together for fun and competition.

Megan Kavanaugh, overall Greek Week co-chair, said the week is a great time for the Greek organizations.

"It's a time to bring all the organizations together for a week to promote Greek unity," she said.

Tony Dubolino, overall Greek Week co-chair, said they planned the event with a few goals in mind.

"We wanted involvement by all the organizations, and we also wanted to wel-

come the two new organizations to our community," he said.

Kavanaugh said they had already accomplished and surpassed their goals.

"Besides the weather, all the events have gone great," she said.

Cathy Fleming, slide show and award committee chair, said she did not see as much participation as in other years.

"I don't know if it is because of lack of spirit or because finals week is so close," she said. "I wish people would get more involved because, overall, it is a fun and enjoyable experience."

Fleming also said she thought more people would participate as the week went along.

Fun and games are not the only things that happen during Greek Week.

The year's Greek Week philanthropy was the Maryville Children's Center. The Greek community also held a canned goods drive for Food Pantry and held a stuffed animal drive for the Nodaway Ambulance and Fire Department.



PHOTO BY JENNY LEWIS/MISSOURIAN PHOTOGRAPHER

Senior Dan Ayala takes his turn during the Battle of the Sexes event Tuesday night, one of many events held during Greek Week. Ayala was named Zeus Monday night.

With all the charity work, the Greek community still had time for the annual fun and activities.

The traditional Zeus and Hera pageant was held at the Charles Johnson Theatre Monday night. Dan Ayala was crowned Zeus alongside Amy Meyer, who was crowned Hera.

A Greeks Gone Wild concert will be held at the Performing Arts Center from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. The con-

cert will feature Hey Larry, Prank Monkey and Mile 29.

The Sorority Frisbee is rescheduled for Friday at 3 p.m.

Saturday's events include a Greek Feast at 11 a.m. and Olympiad at 1 p.m. Both events take place at Beal Park.

Michelle Stacy can be contacted at 562-1224 or mstacy@missourianonline.com

Nodaway County boy rescued from bin

By PETE GUTSCHENRITTER
UNIVERSITY NEWS EDITOR

Monday afternoon, a Burlington Junction boy dug for his life after sinking into the back of a bean truck when it was pouring out hundreds of beans.

Shortly thereafter, rescue workers from Burlington Junction and Maryville responded to a call from the boy's grandmother.

Local media representatives and neighbors came to the house, located on Highway AB and one mile south of Highway 71.

"At first, I couldn't get any (neighbors) here because they didn't get home from work yet," the boy's grandmother said.

Nearly two hours later, the boy had been pulled out of the truck, as three men dug him out of the beans.

According to Sheriff Ben Espey, the 12-year-old boy was trapped in beans from the knees down.

However, it could have been worse because the boy's father did not know he was in the truck.

"God must have told him, 'You need to shut (the bean auger) off now,'" the boy's grandmother said. "The beans just scoop you up, and then you're trapped."

According to his grandmother, the boy was behind the truck before he sneaked up into the bin.

"He knows better," his grandmother gasped when she reflected on the turn of events.

When the grain and beans settle, holes form, and when people get in there, they cave in, the boy's grandmother said. It takes 10 minutes for the entire truck to fill up, she said.

The boy was uninjured after he was pulled from the truck, but he was taken to St. Francis Hospital in Maryville for precautionary measures.

In the rural community of Maryville and its surrounding areas, children getting into bean and grain bins have been a concern.

"Accidents can happen, and with children on the farm, they need to be watched," Espey said.

Overall, the boy's grandmother said it should be a lesson for children across the area.

"It should be a warning for kids not to get in grain or beans," she said. "Don't climb in beans or corn. I've seen people get in there before, and that's bad."

Editor's note: The grandmother said she would speak only if her name was not mentioned. KXCIV News Director Kirk Whyman contributed to the story.

Budget eliminates assistant principal position

By SARAH SWEDBERG
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

An internal member of the Maryville R-II School District was introduced as the new director of the Northwest Technical School Friday.

Mike Jordan, currently assistant principal at Maryville High School, will not only take over assumed responsibilities of the technical school but will also carry with him responsibilities from his current position.

The assistant principal position

will no longer exist after this year because Jordan, the high school administrator and the Maryville Board of Education made the decision not to hire another assistant principal to reduce the school district's expenditures. The high school's administration will take care of the rest of the assistant principal responsibilities.

Because of this, Jordan, as well as the high school's administration, faces many challenges ahead that he said would be both interesting and fun.

One of Jordan's new responsibilities includes continuing the quality programs the technical school offers such as automotive, business, childcare, etc. A current responsibility Jordan will take with him, along with a few others, will be the management of the A+ Program.

However, Jordan said the transition into his new position would be a smooth one.

"With my background, it was a natural fit," Jordan said.

Jordan has had a very rich 28-year history working in the school district.

He has served as the assistant principal of the high school for the past 15 years, one year as a physical education teacher at Washington Middle School and 12 years as an industrial arts teacher and a coach in the football, basketball and track programs at the high school.

Jay Reese, Maryville R-II School District Superintendent, said he is pleased with Jordan.

"I think he has provided excellent service to the district," Reese said. "I believe he will do very well in that position."



PHOTO BY KERRY JONES/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER

Megan Prescott was crowned as the 2003 Northwest Tower Queen. The crowning is held every year by Blue Key as part of the Greek Week celebration.

Spring brings coronation of Northwest Tower Queen

By ASHLEY RICKERSON
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

The sun shone down on the Bell Tower as the Tower Queen was crowned Wednesday at noon.

"In the past, the tower queen coincided with the Tower Yearbook as the spring queen," said Pat McLaughlin, department chair for accounting, economics and finance.

McLaughlin also is involved with Blue Key, a leadership organization that puts on the tower queen.

"Blue Key is a national organization that has been on campus since 1960," McLaughlin said. "That is how long the Tower Queen has been taking place."

Any student organization on

campus can nominate a candidate.

"Approximately 20 girls were nominated," McLaughlin said, "and the judges narrow it down to 5 candidates. After it is narrowed down, the student body votes for the Tower Queen."

The judging is the same as the Homecoming Queen judging, McLaughlin said involvement on and off campus, grade point average and poise are a few of the qualifications the judges look for in the nominated girls.

A small crowd gathered around the Bell Tower while the crown was placed on Megan Prescott, 2003 Tower Queen. Prescott is now the representative for the Homecoming Parade in the fall as the Tower Queen.

Campus, community unite to raise health awareness

By PETE GUTSCHENRITTER
UNIVERSITY NEWS EDITOR

Northwest students and staff will have an excuse to put away the term papers and final exam study guides for a few hours Saturday morning.

The 10th annual 'Cat Walk will serve that purpose as the Northwest community will have the opportunity to run or walk around the Herschel Neil Track at Rickenbrode Stadium at 9 a.m.

The Be Well Committee, comprised of ten faculty members, is sponsoring the event. The purpose of the event is to raise awareness of health issues.

Last year's event was held at Bearcat Arena, but with the floor getting resurfaced, this year's event was pushed outside.

Teresa Carter, publication assistant and member of the Be Well Committee, said it is a good way for the University to get together. "We decided we needed an event

for staff and students to get into shape and get excited about Northwest," Carter said. "And that's when we came to the 'Cat Walk.'"

Over the past ten years, the event has been indoors and outdoors. But when the inaugural event in 1993 kicked off, it got off to an inauspicious start.

"The first year, we had it scheduled for outdoors and it snowed," Carter said. "So we had to move it indoors."

Even though the deadline for the event was Apr. 1, "Everyone is welcome

to walk," Carter said.

All participants that registered before the deadline had to pay a \$2 fee, and they will receive a T-shirt before the walk.

Carter is hopeful the event will run smoothly.

"It's supposed to be 72 and sunny, but if (the weather) gets bad, we'll go into the Rec Center," she said.

Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. Saturday at the northwest corner of the Rec Center.

"We decided we needed an event for staff and students to get into shape and get excited about Northwest."

TERESA CARTER
PUBLICATION ASSISTANT

Holy Week Worship Schedule

April 13 - Palm Sunday

"Parades, Palms, and Pancakes"

8 and 10:15 a.m. Worship - Children's Palm Parade Pancake Breakfast; Combined children's Sunday School in Fellowship Hall

7pm Evening Lenten Vespers - Rev. Paul McKim, Sanctuary

April 14-17 - Monday-Wednesday

Come and Go Communion

6:30-7:30 a.m. and 6:30-7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

April 16 - Wednesday

"Look at Lent" Lenten Fair & Seder Meal

5-7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

April 17 - Maundy Thursday

Come and Go Communion 6:30-7:30 a.m. only

8 a.m. Church Women United Breakfast, St. Gregory's

7 p.m. Worship Service in the Sanctuary

8 p.m. Easter Prayer Vigil begins, Parlor

April 18 - Good Friday

12:00 Noon Community Good Friday Service at NWMSU Conference Center

April 20 - Easter Sunday

6:15 a.m. Sunrise Service at the

Host Lions Shelter, Mozingo Lake

7 a.m. Easter Breakfast, Fellowship Hall

8, 10:15 & 11:30 a.m. Easter

Worship Services in the Church

Sanctuary

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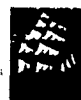
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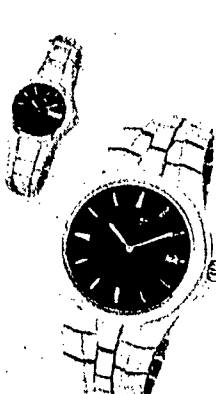
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Crisis plans ready citizens for attacks

BY MARY BOSSUNG
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

As war continues and the country remains on high alert for possible terrorist attacks, people throughout the country have been preparing for the worst possible scenarios, including acts of bioterrorism.

"In this new age of terrorism, every town and city in America is potentially on the front lines. Like our military, our public health system must be at a constant state of readiness," U.S. Senator Kit Bond said. "Our local and state health department staffs, our emergency room doctors and nurses, our pharmacies and our primary care providers must have the training and education required to identify and respond to an act of bioterrorism quickly and effectively."

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services has been working with schools, businesses, families and individuals across the state to prepare for possible attacks.

The state health department has advised people to make plans in preparation for a possible attack and to practice emergency drills.

Mary Kay Hager, public information administrator for the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, said it is important to educate and inform the public so they can participate in their own defense.

Hager also said ensuring that communities, employers and schools take steps now to be prepared is necessary to protect people in the event of a bioterrorist act or threat.

Keith Wood, director of Maryville Public Safety, said that the department would be more than willing to work with businesses and individuals in order to plan for possible attacks.

"I think that it is a good idea to have plans," Wood said. "By the time you know that you have a biohazard problem, it's already going to be at large."

The state health department has hired a group of professionals to help people coordinate emergency plans, including 27 epidemiology specialists employed throughout the state.

Missouri will receive over \$20 million for the fiscal year from Sept. 1, 2003, to Aug. 31, 2004.

The state health department will receive an increase of \$7.1 million from Health Resources and Services Administration to support hospitals for their preparation needs.

The state will also receive \$16.4 million in continuation of a grant with the Centers for Disease Control's Public Health Preparedness and Response for Bioterrorism program.

For more information, contact the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services at 1-800-392-0272 or the Department of Maryville Public Safety at 562-3209.

Citizens salute for soldiers



A crowd of local citizens gathered at 10 a.m. Saturday at the Nodaway County Courthouse lawn for a Rally for the Troops event. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the National Anthem was sung by all who attended. Speeches originally given by Secretary of State Colin Powell were read by people from the crowd.

PHOTO BY ADAM HUNT/MISSOURIAN PHOTOGRAPHER

Local students stay focused as war continues on in Iraq

By ALEXI GROOMOUTIS
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

As American soldiers battle to liberate Iraqi civilians on foreign soil, Maryville high school students are battling over their concerns regarding the war.

Maryville high school senior Kayla Loghry had hoped the U.S. military would refrain from war.

"I thought there were other ways we could solve it," Loghry said. "Now that we are over there, I hope we can get it done as fast as possible."

Loghry said, even though America is at war, she is still able to focus on her school activities. She said it helps to discuss the war at school.

"We watch it in government class, and that's all we've concentrated on lately," Loghry said.

Loghry said, since the United States initiated a war in Iraq, she thinks the United States will face minor bouts of terrorism, but she doesn't feel threatened living in Maryville.

"If I were in a big city like Kansas City, I'd be more worried," Loghry said.

Maryville High School senior Nathan Nonneman initially opposed the war but changed his mind after he learned of the brutality civilians face under Saddam Hussein's regime.

"A lot of (Iraqi civilians) are getting killed for no obvious reason," Nonneman said. "I think America should help out the world."

Inspired by the events of Sept. 11, Nonneman joined the Army National Guard. Nonneman said his conversations with his friends have changed since the Iraqi war started. Nonneman said they continuously voice their concerns regarding Nonneman's safety, which makes him feel uncomfortable at times. He doesn't want his friends to worry about him.

"The (friends) really close to me feel bad for me," Nonneman said. "I tell them not to."

It's not a decision I just jumped into."

Nonneman said he supports the president's decision to go to war and hopes the rest of the country will do the same.

"A lot of people are mad at the president," Nonneman said. "I think he's doing the right thing. The protesters make me mad. He's got the hardest job in the world right now. These people in the Middle East are having a hard life. I think America needs to help."

Nonneman said his parents supported his decision when he decided to join the military, but his mother has recently become more concerned.

"I think she's become really worried in the last couple of weeks," Nonneman said. "I don't think it hit me like it should have."

Nonneman said he doesn't regret his decision to join the military since the war started.

"I'm not really afraid for myself," Nonneman said. "I'm afraid for my country."

Ray Shields is the freshman and sophomore counselor at the Maryville High School. Shields said it is important for him to be available during this time of crisis.

"We have to be alert to students who want to visit because of close relatives involved in the war," Shields said.

Shields said students have yet to come to his office with concerns regarding the war, but if the war is prolonged, Shields said students might begin to exhibit behavioral changes. He said each person reacts differently, but teachers and parents should look for red flags like declining grades and students who are quieter than normal.

According to www.FamilyEducation.com, parents should talk with their teenagers about the war while letting their teens express their individual opinions. The site also advises parents to encourage their children to explore the war issues through the media while discussing how different media outlets portray the war.

Yellow ribbons show support for American troops in Iraq

Boy Scouts may hand out ribbons honoring troops fighting in Middle East

BY MARY BOSSUNG
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

As flowers begin to bloom, tulips and daffodils are not the only signs of yellow that can be found throughout Maryville.

Community members are showing their support for U.S. troops in Iraq by wearing yellow ribbons and placing them in their yards.

There are several groups in the community that are handing out ribbons of support, and local Boy Scouts of America troops may soon be one of them.

Joe Gaa, executive for the Oroo district that includes Nodaway, Atchison, Worth, Holt and Gentry counties, said that red, white and blue ribbons have already been handed out in the St. Joseph council office.

The Pony Express Council that governs Boy Scout troops and Cub Scout packs in Maryville and surrounding communities will meet today to discuss the possibility of handing out yellow ribbons.

Gaa also said that anytime we have troops out, it is important to

support them.

"(The ribbons are) not to support the cause but to support the people," Gaa said.

Mike Mandrick, troop 74 leader, said that his troop discussed current events including the war at their meeting Monday.

Mandrick said he was not aware that council members were encouraging troops to hand out ribbons, but he was not surprised.

"A part of the (Boy Scouts of America) oath is to God and to (our) country. We may not necessarily agree or disagree with politics, but we support our country," Mandrick said.

Mary Bossung can be contacted at 562-1224 or mbossung@missourianonline.com



PHOTO BY KARA SWINK/WEB LIAISON

A homeowner on Munn Street hangs a yellow ribbon on a tree out front in order to show support for Operation Iraqi Freedom. Ribbons are being used to remember those overseas.

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Our View

Is it worth the sacrifice?

In Northwest's proposed merge with UM system, more may be lost than gained

In less than a week, hundreds of questions have risen from students, faculty, staff and alumni about Northwest's possible merge with the University of Missouri system.

After more than three years of discussions behind closed doors, the administration finally broke the silence to the news media during a press conference Monday afternoon.

University President Dean Hubbard and UM system President Elson Floyd discussed and answered questions regarding the possible merge and what it would mean for Northwest.

It has been 40 years since a university joined the UM system, the last being the University of Missouri-St. Louis. While Floyd believes a merge would pave new ground in the education system, we at *The Northwest Missourian* believe if a merge occurs, Northwest's integrity will be damaged.

Before a merge can be plausible, the UM system and Northwest will have to get legislation passed by the Missouri Senate before the end of the term. If they don't make the June 1 deadline, then they will have to wait until the next term.

However, before the proposal can even go to the Senate, Northwest's Board of Regents will vote whether to pass the proposal on to Senate Sunday or table it for further discussion. But is there enough time for students, faculty and staff to have their questions and concerns answered?

Hubbard said the merge with the UM system could happen as soon as July 1.

And although Hubbard and Floyd stressed that Northwest traditions would not be damaged, a namesake that individuals identify with the University could vanish.

If legislation passes, not only will the University no longer be identified as the Electronic Campus, but Northwest's "Once a Bearcat, Always a Bearcat" pride would be diminished, and an institution that people respect and admire would now be unfamiliar.

Hundreds of students, faculty, staff, alumni and community members voiced their opinions at the town hall-style meeting Monday afternoon regarding traditions, tuition, tenure and more.

We applaud the administration for allowing the Northwest family to voice their opinions regarding numerous concerns and questions they had about the merge with the UM system.

But we ask the administration to slow down and research the possible merge more thoroughly. Why is there such an urgency to have this taken before Senate in the next few weeks? Why can't the administration discuss the possible outcomes with the Northwest family more in depth and wait until next year to broach the topic?

The Northwest Missourian asks the Board of Regents to step back and see what an approved vote would do to Northwest. As an institution, we would lose our independence and everything for which this University stands. Giving up our autonomy would damage our reputation as a credited University because Northwest would be governed by the University of Missouri and would lose its governance.

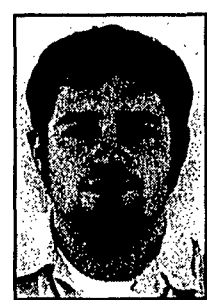
We also ask students, faculty, staff and alumni to speak out against this until more information is available. Although the administration may not listen, it's your right to voice an opinion and stand behind the true Northwest.

Corrections

■ In the April 3 issue in the story "Accident claims student's life," the accident occurred around 1 a.m., not 10 a.m.



The Fire this Time



JED MURR
MISSOURIAN COLUMNIST

Remain skeptical of power-hungry U.S. leaders

The Red Cross announced last Thursday that the number of civilian casualties in Baghdad is so high the hospitals have had to stop counting. The fate of those civilians, and of our men and women in Iraq, was decided a long time ago—before we defied world opinion and violated our Constitution to start this war; before we somehow became convinced that an isolated military weakling was an imminent threat; even before the Sept. 11 attacks that made us so fearful.

Years ago, the men who now run our country—Dick Cheney, Donald Rumsfeld, Richard Perle, Paul Wolfowitz and many others—

openly decided to control the Middle East and create a new Pax Americana of global U.S. influence. Together, the small group of millionaires formed the right-wing think tank Project for a New American Century (PNAC) to "promote American global leadership."

While much of the group's goals for our country are quite open (and even displayed on their Web site, www.newamericancentury.org), Scotland's Sunday Herald recently uncovered a secret PNAC document (now also on their Web site) that outlines a "grand strategy," as they put it, for "maintaining global U.S. pre-eminence."

The document, dated September 2000 and entitled "Rebuilding America's Defenses: Strategies, Forces, and Resources For A New Century," reveals that President Bush and his cabinet planned to take over Iraq even before President Bush took power.

The blueprint also reveals that Bush's cabinet—the same people who've repeatedly equated Saddam Hussein to Hitler—planned to take control of the Middle East whether Hussein was in power or not. For the members of the PNAC, according to their own document, "conflict with Iraq provides the immediate justification for bringing the entire Gulf region under the control of the U.S. military."

And, so far, their blueprint is working, which means that we can look forward, in the near future, to being sent to "fight and decisively win multiple, simultaneous major theater wars" that will be created for us as part of the group's "core mission."

Disgustingly, the document, written and promoted by a group

of men who openly supported the Vietnam war while avoiding service, speaks of our military as "the cavalry on the new American frontier," as though devastating wars are just part of a Wild West fantasy that the PNAC will happily force us and the world to play out.

The report also conceives of our closest allies, like the United Kingdom, not as any kind of partners, but as merely "the most effective and efficient means of exercising American global leadership."

It calls for increasing our exorbitant military budget by at least \$15 to \$20 billion every year while intentionally undermining the United Nations.

And, ironically, while the members of the PNAC were the biggest proponents of war against Iraq because, they claim, of weapons of mass destruction, the document calls for increasing the massive U.S. arsenal of weapons of mass destruction, perhaps even to include illegal biological weapons as "a politically useful tool."

What does all this mean for us? Well, that's what we have to decide. Do we want to let a small coterie of elite chickenhawks—a group one British member of Parliament has properly termed "fantasist[s]...who want to control the world"—continue to polarize us from the rest of the world, ignore vital domestic issues like unemployment and healthcare, and use our fear and our soldiers to play out their boyhood dream of, as they put it, "a worldwide command and control system"? I think I know my answer. What will yours be?

Jed Murr can be contacted at 562-1224 or jmurr@missourianonline.com

Your View

What effects will the construction of new residence halls have on students?



"It's just so expensive and my friends all live off campus. The idea of it is cool. With the construction going on, it is going to be really difficult to maneuver around it. It'll be an inconvenience to everyone."

Dondi Leake
ELEMENTARY
EDUCATION



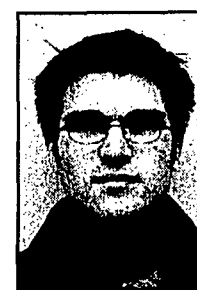
"I think it's pretty nice. It'll be better dorms. The heat might work all the time. It'll take a long time before it is all done, though."

Enoch Moore
COMPUTER
SCIENCE



"It wakes me up in the morning. But I guess it is worth it so more people can come to the school and live here."

Fran Blake
SOCIAL SCIENCE
EDUCATION



"It will probably bring more room and provide better facilities. But right now, it's a big pain."

Caleb Taylor
ART



"I think for the people in Millikan it will be a long walk, and I also think it will affect how many people go to The Cellar because it is inconvenient to walk around to the construction. I think it's kind of interesting to watch the progress, though."

Marci Weis
ANIMAL SCIENCE

Have something to say?

Dial 562-1980



"Does Dr. Hubbard want enrollment at Northwest to go down? That's exactly what will happen if we become the University of Missouri-Northwest."

"So when are they going to finish this eyesore that they call Colden Pond? I'm sure this looks really good to all the little recruits that are coming in wandering around campus, this big old ugly hole in the middle of our beautiful, wonderful campus. Yeah. They really need to finish this."

"Students at Northwest keep complaining about the entertainment that they get. There were six bands in the Conference Center Wednesday for Battle of the Bands, and only \$2 to get in the door. Only 50 people showed up. Six bands for \$2, or pay \$15 to see Coolio and it sucked? Yeah, they need to stop complaining and just support what comes here."

"If I wanted to go to the University of Missouri, I'd go to Columbia."

The Northwest Missourian is an independent learning environment providing the best source of information and advertising for our community.

Questions? Comments about *The Northwest Missourian*? Story idea? We would like to hear from you. If you do not find the person you need on the right, please contact Bill Knust at 660-562-1224, by fax at 660-562-1521, by e-mail at northwestmissourian@hotmail.com or write us at 800 University Drive, Wells Hall 6, Maryville, MO 64468.

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Letter to the Editor

Northwest alumnus urges students to vote for Proposition B constitution

A recent article from Abby Simons struck me as very profound in what is happening at Northwest regarding a proposed student government constitution.

As reported, two students, Ryan Bauer and John Lakebrink, are attempting to transform student representation at the University and usher in a 21st century organization that will be more accountable, reliable and flexible. Just as the United States is experiencing profound political changes at all levels, it is now Northwest's turn to modernize Student Senate, a great institution. I strongly believe that present and future students will reap the benefits if this initiative passes.

Today, technology is ubiquitous at Northwest, and that brings additional information to students. This empowerment allows them to make decisions benefiting themselves while also flattening organizations such as Student Senate that are hierarchical in nature. The proposed constitution addresses all of these issues:

- Creating more elective offices
- Restricting the monopolization of power in the executive branch
- Creating a balance of power with the addition of a legislative and judicial branch
- Clearly outlining and separating the powers of each branch
- Preventing cronyism or the appearance thereof

When I was a student at Northwest,

allowing the government to function efficiently when and if it finds itself dealing with corruption or malfeasance.

The current constitution is archaic, as it was designed to work in an age when computers weren't as prevalent as they are today. Now that everyone is connected, it makes sense to allow students a bigger voice in the structure of their government, in turn increasing representation, participation and comprehension of the issues that affect their lives.

Transforming the student government by adopting this constitution would be a giant leap towards accomplishing that goal.

When I was a student at Northwest,

there were many frustrations at how Student Senate functioned. However, an innovative and creative remedy such as this was not developed. Now students have the opportunity to create a government that addresses the demands and needs of students in the 21st century. I strongly urge all students to support this initiative, as it will allow Northwest's student government to be more responsive to the student body while also becoming a paradigm for other institutions of higher learning.

HAWKEYE WILSON '96
WASHINGTON D.C.

FACULTY/STAFF

Laura Widmer, Director of Student Publications
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We want to hear your views on this issue and others. Call *The Northwest Missourian* Back Talk line at 562-1980. E-mail your letter to the editor to northwestmissourian@hotmail.com or send it by mail to:

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Maryville, MO 64468

Letters are limited to 250 words by space constraints. All letters must be signed; students should include their major. *The Missourian* reserves the right to edit all letters.

MISSOURIAN BACKTALK

The *Missourian* staff reserves the right not to print anonymous personal attacks, libel or slander, and explicit comments. Comments printed in Backtalk do not represent the views of *The Northwest Missourian*.

Longtime friend fondly remembers student

By ABBY SIMONS
MANAGING EDITOR

To Rabbit, as he was affectionately nicknamed, friends and family were more important than anything. Now, those he loved remember James Anderson as a man who lived life to the fullest.

Anderson, a sophomore accounting major from Ludlow, Mo., died April 2 in a one-vehicle accident when his vehicle left the road at the intersection of highways 71 and 136 in Maryville.

Survived by his parents, two brothers and four sisters, Anderson also left behind a number of friends at Northwest, including senior humanities major Nathaniel Oster, who described his longtime friend as someone who could always be counted on.

"James was someone who was always ready and willing to lend a helping hand," Oster said. "He'd always be by my side to talk whenever I needed him, but, at the same time, he was always there for the joke."

Anderson arrived at Northwest in the fall of 2002 after transferring from North

Central Community College in Trenton, Mo., where he received his associate's degree. A resident of Phillips Hall before relocating off campus for the spring trimester, Anderson became reacquainted with Oster, with whom he attended high school, and other hometown friends upon his arrival in Maryville.

"We were all very close. We called each other brothers," Oster said. "For the rest of us, (Anderson's death) is pretty hard on all of us right now, but to get through it, we talk about when we're all together. We just keep leaning on each other."

An outdoor enthusiast whose pride was a 75-pound catfish caught near Ludlow, Oster said his friend was also a pool and card-playing pro who could always be counted on to enliven the moment.

Oster said that, while Anderson's life was cut short by tragedy, one of life's greatest lessons was taught to him by his departed friend.

"Don't get caught up with the fast pace of life," Oster said. "Take a moment, sit back, find those close to you, those you call friends, and make sure part of your life is spent actually living with them. That's where you'll find happiness. That's something he displayed. That was his character."

A bell ringing for Oster will soon be held at the Bell of '44 on the Northwest campus. Time and date have yet to be announced.



JAMES ANDERSON

Merger from 1A

Northwest considers merger with UM system

must pass the proposal.

However, with the Senate adjournment in five weeks, Tom Vansaghi, vice president of University relations, said it might be too late for Northwest to get legislation passed, but the University is still hopeful.

"But by the time we get done going through the process of talking about it, it's going to leave us maybe five weeks, and that doesn't leave us much time," Vansaghi said. "So, this could just add to the log jam or create an even bigger one."

However, if the amendment passes, he told Floyd that he will not give up the Board of Regents because he believes the Board is "magnificent" as well as the people who work on it, Hubbard said.

"Yes, we would give up our autonomy, and you always look at that, and you always say 'Do the benefits outweigh the cost?'" Hubbard said. "We are more convinced they do. But it's clear, this is (the Board's) decision, and I'll support whatever they tell me to do with the very best of my ability."

Jim Johnson, Board of Regents president, said there is a lot of research to be

done before the Board votes Sunday. Johnson said the Board will not vote against the proposal, but will decide to either approve it or table it for further discussion.

"When I first heard about (the merger), it bothered me," Johnson said. "But when you think about it, you have to look at the big picture. If it's good for the kids, good for the University, I don't have a problem with it."

But many questions have filtered through the University concerning Northwest's identity and its name. Floyd said the University of Missouri has no intentions of compromising Northwest's traditions.

"We want to nurture and protect the solid traditions that are here, and we will do nothing to compromise it," Floyd said.

As for the name of Northwest and whether it would be called University of Missouri-Northwest or the University of Missouri-Maryville, it is too soon to tell.

Paul Klute, student regent, distributed an e-mail to Northwest students which read "Potential integration would

be a movement to save money for the state, the University of Missouri System and Northwest," but neither Hubbard nor Floyd could distinguish how much there would be in potential savings. But Hubbard said, "Anytime you do something better, you do it cheaper."

The next step for Northwest is to understand how the University of Missouri System works and to develop an understanding on transitional issues, Hubbard said.

"Northwest is not becoming a weakened state. The institution is strong, enrollment's strong and our academic programs, you bet," Hubbard said.

Former University President Robert Foster said the merger idea is not a new question for Northwest and not one that hasn't been discussed.

"I think this is one opportunity in education to strengthen both institutions because each has something to contribute and we have taken a long time to recognize that," Foster said. "I think it's a no-lose situation. We're not duplicating things, so I don't see us changing one bit."

Town Hall from 1A

Concerns, support arise at town hall meeting

"I'm paid to think about the future of Northwest, and, since (the universities) think it's the right thing to do, I think we will all benefit," Hubbard said. "And I think we should get on with it."

Hubbard and Elson Floyd, UM system president, reinforced that a merger would assist in program growth, but neither would disclose specifics.

"It would be inappropriate to speculate," Hubbard said. "I'd be nervous tossing around particular possibilities."

As for tuition, Hubbard said it would be transitional.

The Missouri Curators set tuition rates but not universities fees. Students concerned about facing a \$20,000 do not have to worry according to Hubbard. "It won't happen," he said.

Hubbard and Floyd also touched on

Northwest's strong identity and how the University's traditions would not be lost.

"We enter into this with a high level of trust," Hubbard said. "We enter into this as an institution of strength."

Bill Lockwood, assistant professor of educational leadership, said the administration should deliberate the idea a bit longer.

"I think before we move into this, we need to dot our 'I's and cross our 'T's," he said.

One Northwest student asked on behalf of the student body if they would have the chance to cast their vote on the proposal.

"This is the Board (of Regents)'s decision. It is clear the Board is constitutionally and legally empowered to make a decision," Hubbard said. "Not me. So

tough luck."

However, Hubbard said he sees minimal conflicts associated with the merger.

"If there is any way that the quality of what (students) experience will diminish, we won't do it," Hubbard said. "We are going to make sure there is thoughtful consideration involved."

Junior Janson Thomas, political science major, said the administrators need to provide more details before the Board votes Sunday.

"The devil is always in the details," Thomas said. "We need to hear more discussion to be able to comprehend the details that we currently have before us."

Applebee's from 1A

Applebee's may come to town

a contractor will be hired to construct the restaurant, she said.

The news came as a surprise to both the Greater Maryville Chamber of Commerce and Nodaway County Economic Development.

"This is the first I've heard of it," said Tom Bliss, who works with Nodaway County Economic Development. "That's fantastic."

Bliss said the addition of an Applebee's restaurant to Maryville could bring about a lot of other business opportunities.

"(Having an Applebee's) creates an environment where other restaurants might take notice and be more interested in moving here," he said. "It's a contagious environment."

Lisa Lutes, executive director for the Greater Maryville Chamber of Commerce, echoed that idea.

"The more choices you have, the more businesses will come to Maryville," she said.

Lutes also said having an Applebee's would strengthen the tourism industry of the city.

"It would definitely give the people

of Maryville another choice for fine dining, and it would bring people from surrounding towns possibly to eat," she said. "Plus, it would generate employment opportunities."

Bliss said it is not abnormal for businesses not to contact either the Chamber or Nodaway County Economic Development before coming to town.

"Typically, (a business) will contact a realtor to find land and eventually contact Nodaway County Economic Development," he said.

Lutes said that the Chamber is here to offer help if it's needed.

"We assist them if they call and want to come to the area," she said.

While neither organization knows much for now about the development of an Applebee's, both are in favor.

"I do know that everybody wants a new sit-down place," said Tiffany Whipple, administrative secretary for the Chamber.

And if Concord Hospitality follows through with their plans, it looks as if Maryville residents may finally get their wish.

Proposition 2 from 1A

Renovations to commence as plan passes

"That's a little more than normal for an April election," Reese said. "Perhaps that means people were interested in what we were doing and wanted to express their opinion with it."

Jim Blackford is one of the co-chairs for Maryville Citizens for Education, a group formed to campaign for Proposition 2.

Blackford said he was happy that the community responded to the information presented by the Maryville Citizens for Education and others who helped with the project.

"The Maryville Citizens for Education is elated," Blackford said. "The information encouraged people and allowed them to make the choice to support this issue."

Blackford said he was not surprised with the results because the Maryville community has traditionally been supportive of progressive issues.

The renovations are expected to begin as soon as possible and will be completed by 2005.

Maryville High School senior Kelli Starr said teachers were talking more about the bond issue Wednesday morning at the high school than the students.

Starr said she was happy the proposal passed, but disappointed she wouldn't get to enjoy the renovations.

"It kind of sucks in a way cause we're not going to get to use it, but there's nothing I can do about it," Starr said.

Reese said approval ratings, which were around 70 percent, speak for themselves.

"Success breeds success," Reese said. "People feel good not only about the schools but our community, too."

Senate from 1A

Webstar Senate votes to close 5 p.m. Friday

is running with Chase Cornett, who is currently the freshman class representative and parliamentarian.

One advantage Dix said she believes she has over Lakebrink is her past experience on Student Senate.

"I feel that my experiences on Student Senate, which include secretary and sophomore class president, will help me next year if I am elected," Dix said.

Lakebrink has been pushing for changes in the structure of the Senate for the last several weeks. The proposal, to be voted on next week, features three branches, and will "make students much more accessible to the legislative leader of the student government," Lakebrink said.

Whether it is he or Dix who wins the election, Lakebrink is confident the job will get done.

"I think Emily will do just as good a job, if not better than me (as Student Senate president)," Lakebrink said. "I have the highest, utmost respect for Emily."

Current President Kara Karssen said the interest in the Senate is good for the University.

"We're excited that there is a lot of interest from students from all different spectrums because that shows that there is an interest in the organization," Karssen said.

Voting for the next Senate president will close at 5 p.m. Friday. Results of the election will be available at the Student Senate meeting April 15.

Troubles from 1A

Results arrive at daybreak for candidates

politically to gain some national recognition.

"I am respectful and grateful for the vote," Thompson said. "I am looking forward to serving with a very proactive Council on some major issues at hand."

One major issue Thompson said he plans on attacking right away is transforming the current status of the airport into a regional one.

School board election results were also counted, resulting in Melinda Fulton and Mark Watkins being re-elected to their previous positions.

"I ran again because I thought I had a good opportunity to win," Watkins said. "Basically, it was a win-win situation though, three good people running for two positions."

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Any questions contact Paula McLain 562-1140

It's about thyme

By MONICA CALDWELL
FEATURES EDITOR

Along with advancements in prescription medicine over the past few decades has come a rise in the historical practice of herbal supplemental remedies.

According to the American Pharmaceutical Association, between the mid-1990s and 2000, sales of herbal medicine increased from \$4 billion to \$16 billion.

"Herbs are food and they are high in nutrition," said Jeanette Barcus, co-owner of Herbs 'n' Whey and certified herbalist. "Food provides nutrients that heal and repair, and that's what (herbs) do. Medications kind of help you deal with the symptoms but they don't get to the root of the cause, and they don't provide nutrients."

Herbal supplements have played a crucial role in self-prescribed wellness and can be found lining shelves of common drugstores.

Some herbs are now seen as active components in body building supplements as well as an alternative to steroids.

Herbs have been used to assist in everything from reduction of cholesterol to a general boost in the function of the immune system, although the benefits occasionally take longer to set in than with prescription drugs.

"You would be amazed at the number of things that can be helped naturally or with herbs, and a lot of times you can avoid a more serious treatment and get good results," said Barcus.

In addition, side effects are usually more moderate in herbal medi-

cine than in prescription drugs, but it is still important to know about them.

For instance, the herb ginkgo has been shown to increase blood flow, alleviate asthmatic symptoms, shrink hemorrhoids, ease hypertension and relieve tinnitus, or buzzing in the ears. But for all its benefits, it can cause headaches, upset stomachs or dizziness and is potentially dangerous for hemophiliacs because of its blood thinning capabilities.

Similarly, ginseng improves general well-being by boosting stamina, concentration and appetite, and it can relieve liver problems in diabetics when prescribed by a suitable herbalist. However, it should not be mixed with caffeine or alcohol because of the potential onset of headaches and high blood pressure. Ginseng should also be avoided during pregnancy and breast-feeding.

Thyme can be used as an antiseptic for minor abrasions and as a source of aid from headaches and migraines. In tea form, it can soothe sore throats and hasten hangovers. But thyme oil can act as a skin irritant or cause poisonous side effects.

Even those herbs without known or definite side effects, like Echinacea and St. John's Wort, should be consumed responsibly.

"If you're on any medication, you need to do your homework," said Barcus. "Just pay attention to your body because anyone can be allergic to anything. For the most part, herbs

are safe if you use them in moderation. You can get too much of anything, even water, so just use common sense."

It is also necessary to research the company manufacturing the supplements to confirm product legitimacy and to keep in mind that the advertised potency is not always accurate.

"That's where buying a quality supplement is important," Barcus said. "(Our manufacturers) check and double check theirs to make sure it's taken from the right part of the plant (and) it's free of contaminants. They make sure that what is on the label is what is in the pill, and they guarantee them to be pure and effective."

St. Francis Hospital pharmacist Kris Frankum said that since the Food and Drug Administration does not have control of herbal supplements, there is no way to regulate products 100 percent.

However, the negative attitude of some physicians could be changing.

"I think they just haven't been taught," said Barcus. "More doctors are going back to get educated on herbs because it's getting so widespread, and the patients are asking, and the doctors need to know."

Barcus teaches classes at 7:15 Friday nights at Herbs 'n' Whey for those interested in learning more about alternative methods of medication.



PHOTO COURTESY OF AMANDA SANDERSON

Jeanette Barcus, co-owner of Herbs 'n' Whey, explains some of her products. She, along with her husband Dave, have owned the herb and health food store for almost 6 years.

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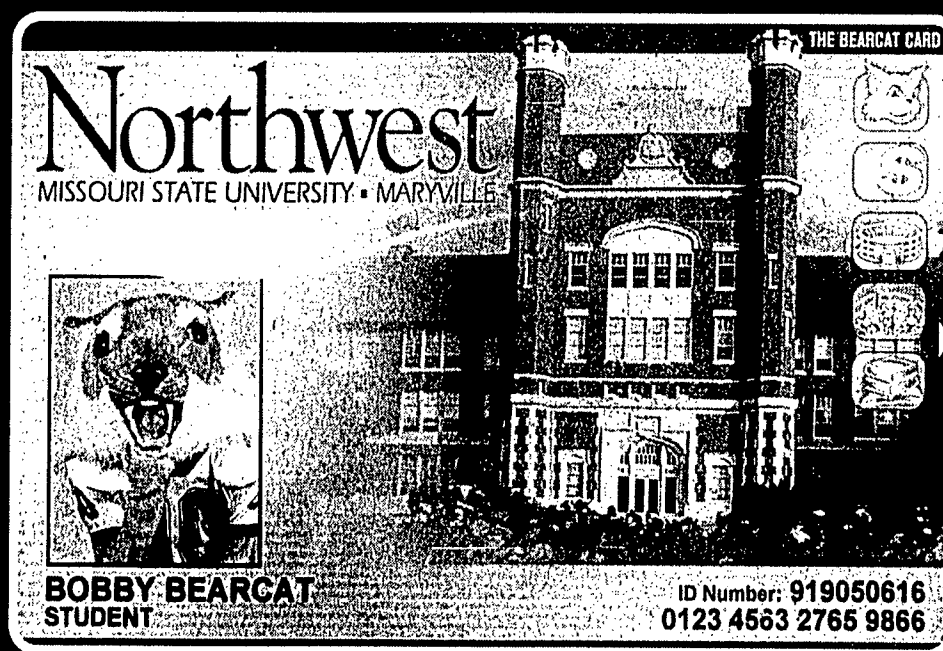
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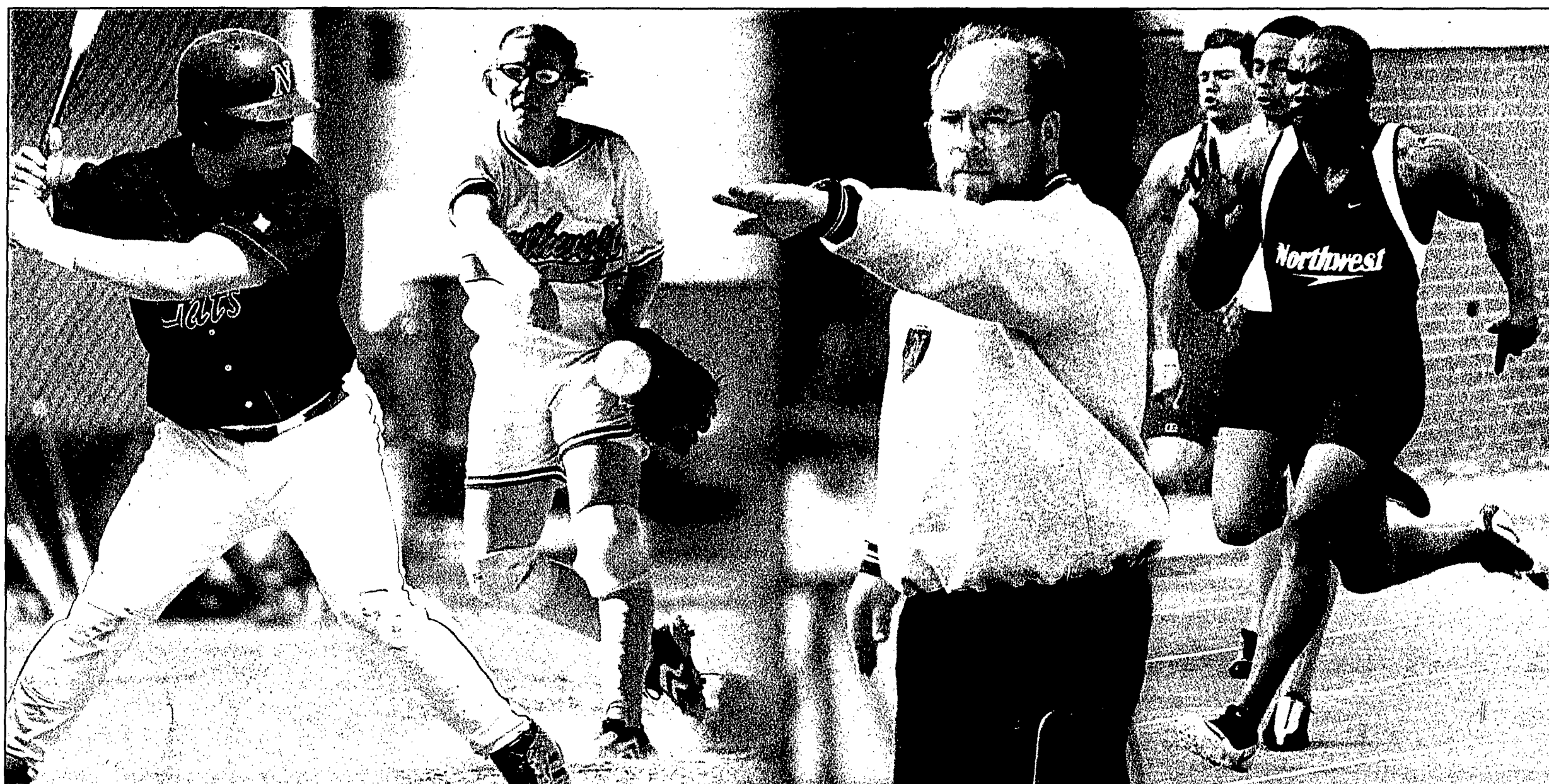
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SPRING SUCCESS



Bearcat third baseman John Sipes

Bearcat pitcher Jacqui Handlos

Bearcat head tennis coach Mark Rosewell

Bearcat sprinter Gabriel Helms

Four programs
are still in chase
for MIAA crowns

By CLARK GRELL
SPORTS EDITOR
&
COLE YOUNG
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

There are some teams that are known to soar in a season when other squads struggle, but this spring, Northwest has four programs finding their way to success-

ful seasons.

This season features a team off to their best start in years and two others in position to repeat as conference champions.

After finishing 28-26 last season, the Bearcat baseball team is on their way to not only finishing with a better record this season, but also their best finish in 14 years.

The experience of the team is one thing head coach Darin Loe credits for the early spring success. "Everybody on the field is pretty much returning," Loe said. "We have a lot of leadership coming back as well as guys that know each other, know me and know the system."

With the team getting wins, the overall morale of the team is better.

In addition, Loe said the team has gotten more confidence and seems to be enjoying the game more.

Even after the quick start, the 'Cats remain focused on a tough upcoming week, including playing Pitt State University, a team Northwest hasn't seen yet this season.

"We have a long season, and baseball isn't a game you can play tense," Loe said. "Fortunately, we are playing well and are able to have some guys getting some confidence."

Though Loe did say he thinks the team's hitting is going to have to improve, overall, he is pleased with the squad.

"Our guys are playing well right now, getting wins and having fun playing baseball."

The softball team did not get off to the start that was expected of them, but the 'Cats have been establishing themselves as of late.

The Bearcats went into Wednesday's games against Central Missouri State University winning 10 of their last 11 games.

"The team has stepped up," head coach Susan Punzo said. "I think the more games we'll get under our belt, the more comfortable we are going to feel on the defensive side."

But with the final stretch of the schedule coming up, the team still thinks they can improve.

"There are definitely a lot of improvements to be made," sophomore pitcher Shelly MacDonald said. "We are definitely coming to-

gether more, and we'll hit our peak when we need to."

The team has shown signs that they are capable of hanging with any team in the MIAA. At one point this season, the 'Cats pitched four consecutive shutouts. Three of them came in one day in the Northwest Classic against South Dakota State University, the University of Nebraska-Kearney and Central.

That can be attributed to the sophomore pitching duo of Jacqui Handlos and MacDonald. While the bats are now starting to find their swing, the pitching of the two sophomores has been consistent all season. The two pitchers have combined for eight shutouts.

If you were to ask the students on the campus who the most suc-

cessful teams in the spring are at Northwest, very few would say the tennis teams.

Last year, however, they both claimed MIAA championships for the second straight year.

Both teams are ranked nationally, and the women have an 18-4 record while the men sit at 13-5.

The teams have also had players named as the MIAA Player of the Week consistently over the last month.

"We've been successful for about the last 20 years," said head coach Mark Rosewell. "We have just been consistent. I think it has something to do with the equal treatment we give both the men's and women's teams."

The track teams are just now

getting into the thick of their schedules. Both teams are coming off strong finishes at the Northwest Invitational Saturday.

"We were pleased with where we finished Saturday," women's head coach Vicki Wooton said. "We had a lot of the same teams we did the previous years, but we are a little bit stronger this year than what we were in the past."

Field events are fueling both teams to higher finishes this season. The men placed fourth or higher in every field event at the Northwest Invite while the women placed fourth or higher in six field events.

"Our field events definitely helped carry us to that second place finish," Wooton said.

Record through April 8: 22-8, 9-3 in MIAA.

Record through this time last year: 19-16

Conference standing: 2nd

MIAA Player of the Week awards: 2

The bottom line: Pitchers Brett Rust and Jeremy Teter are in the top 10 in three MIAA statistical categories. They are No. 1 and No. 2 in walks. The Bearcats are second in the conference overall in pitching and fourth in batting.

Record through April 8: 17-10, 5-1 in MIAA.

Record through this time last year: 17-8

Conference standing: 3rd

MIAA Player of the Week awards: 3

The bottom line: The Bearcats rank eighth in the conference in batting. However, the team has been crossing the plate on numerous occasions lately. The Bearcats scored 17 runs on Park University and 15 more on Southwest Baptist.

Record through April 8: 31-9, 7-1 in MIAA.

Record through this time last year: NA

Conference standing: Men 3rd, Women 1st

MIAA Player of the Week awards: 5

The bottom line: Both teams are nationally ranked. The men are ranked 4th, and the women are ranked 19th. Both are aiming to repeat as MIAA conference champions. Northwest will play host to the conference champions on April 18 and 19.

Record through April 8: NA

Record through this time last year: NA

Conference standing: NA

MIAA Player of the Week awards: 1

The bottom line: The Northwest Invitational was the first meet both squads took part in as a complete team this outdoor season. Many tough meets await the Bearcat squads before the MIAA championship meet on May 3 and 4.

SWEEP: Bearcats take care of Ichabods

Three Bearcats go yard in wins No. 23 and 24

By COLE YOUNG
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The Northwest men's baseball team picked up two easy wins over the Washburn University Ichabods yesterday at Bearcat Field.

Highlighting the wins were the starting pitching efforts of juniors Jeremy Teter and David Dugan. The staff combined to give up only two earned runs in the doubleheader. Northwest

won 14-3, 6-1.

"I would say our pitching has been one of our strongest points," Dugan said. "We have a good staff, and things are going well for us."

Dugan improved his record to 5-0 despite battling sickness all week.

"I haven't felt good at all this week," Dugan said. "I thought I pitched well, though, but it wasn't my best stuff."

In the first game, the Bearcats got off to a consistent start, scoring a run in each of their first four innings.

Senior Willie Ciaramitaro got things started for Northwest by scoring after senior Mike



Northwest Washburn

	R	H	E
Northwest	14	12	2
Washburn	3	7	1

Ruff was walked in the first inning.

In the second inning, the bottom half of the Bearcat lineup came through when sophomore Kyle Gallagher hit a ball to the fence and came



PHOTO BY BILL KNUST/EDITOR IN CHIEF

Sophomore outfielder Kyle Gallagher slides home safely in the second inning of the Bearcat's 14-3 win in game one against Washburn. Northwest won both games.

through with a double. One batter later, Dugan knocked Gallagher in for a 2-0 advantage.

The fifth inning saw the

'Cats struggle in the field with three consecutive plays being ruled errors. To start the fielding mayhem, junior Michael French (Please see 'Sweep' on page 2B)

'Cats' sixth inning homer clinches split with Jennies

Sophomore infielder takes charge in game two

By CLARK GRELL
SPORTS EDITOR

Head softball coach Susan Punzo said earlier in the season that the Bearcats would be in contention for an MIAA title once the bats started coming alive.

Sophomore infielder Tara Risetter has done her share of

late to make an MIAA title a reality, including in Wednesday's doubleheader against Central Missouri State University at Bearcat Field.

Risetter drove in three runs in the Bearcat's 6-2 victory over Central in game two of the doubleheader. She finished the game going three of four, with a double and a two-run homerun in the sixth inning that secured Northwest's 18th win of the season.

The win was the Bearcats sixth conference win of the year. The (Please see 'Softball' on page 2B)

Inside

Northwest track & field 2B
Northwest football 2B
'Hounds tennis 2B
'Hounds soccer 3B
Northwest tennis 3B
Out of Bounds 3B
Fan Plan 3B



Northwest track

Many first place finishes were picked up by the Northwest track and field teams Saturday at the Northwest Invitational. Turn to page 2B for results and an in-depth look at the meet.

Hounds soccer

Cold weather did not stop the Maryville girls' soccer team from playing Tuesday. Nor did it stop them from thumping their opponent. Turn to page 3B to find out who stood in the 'Hounds way and failed.



Northwest tennis

The men's and women's teams were on the road at Rockhurst Tuesday. To find out how the team fared in Kansas City and what lies ahead for both squads, turn to page 3B.

Men place first, women second in Northwest Invitational

By RYAN DELEHANT
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

The Northwest men's track and field team was crowned Northwest Invitational Champion this past Saturday while the women placed second.

The Bearcat men scored 154 points to hold off North Dakota State University by seven points.

The men's track and field team won five individual events. They were led by sophomore thrower Clint Prange's wins in the shot put and the discus. Finishing second to Prange in both events was sophomore teammate Daniel McKim.

Junior Gabriel Helms won the 100-meter dash with a time of 10.66. Helms' time also provisionally qualified him for the national meet.

Sophomore Pat Jordan defended his title in the high jump with a jump of 6 feet, 4 inches. Senior Travis Mason won Northwest's other individual title by winning the long jump with a leap of 22 feet, 11 inches.

The Bearcat women took runner-up honors at the meet, led by four individual winners. The team's 121 points was second only to the University of Nebraska-Omaha's 194.5.

"I was quite pleased with our performance," coach Vicki Wooton said. "We had a lot of strong performances to help us improve from last year."

Three of the women's four titles came in the field events. Throwers Sara Wolff and Mary Wirt, senior and sophomore, respectively, both claimed individual honors. Wolff won the shot put with a throw of 40 feet, 11 inches, while Wirt won the hammer throw with a toss of 161 feet. Wirt's throw provisionally qualified her for the national meet.

"Mary's throw put her in the top 16 nationally," Wooton said. "We are pleased to have her back after missing her for the indoor season."

The women's third field event title came from junior Gara Lacy in the long jump. Lacy won the event with a jump of 18 feet. Freshman Alisha Samuel won the 100-meter dash with a time of 12.55.

The men's and women's next meet will be the Concordia Invitational.

"There is going to be some good competition there, and the weather looks good, so we are excited about that," Wooton said.

The meet will take place Saturday in Seward, Neb.

Ryan Delehant can be contacted at 562-1224 or rdelehant@missourianonline.com

Top finishers at Northwest Invite

Men
200-m dash — Gabriel Helms, 1st 10.66
400-m dash — Tyler Martin, 4th 49.07
800-m run — Kyle Keras, 3rd 1:55.18
1500-m run — Chad Fowler, 6th 4:02.72
10,000-m run — Jamison Phillips, 4th 33:04
400-m hurdles — Joel Terry, 2nd 55.75
4x100-m relay — 2nd 42.07
4x400-m relay — 4th 3:23.91
High Jump — Pat Jordan, 1st 6-4
Pole Vault — Adam Miller, 4th 12-9.50
Long Jump — Travis Mason, 1st 22-11
Triple Jump — Anthony Jackson, 4th 41-3
Shot Put — Clint Prange, 1st 55-1.50
Discus — Prange, 1st 173-5
Hammer — Daniel McKim, 3rd 165-04

Women
100-m dash — Alisha Samuel, 1st 12.55
200-m dash — Samuel, 3rd 25.65
400-m dash — Mariah Clark, 6th 1:00.10
10,000-m run — Ashley Grosse, 4th 41:15.9
100-m hurdles — Kadie Campbell, 4th 15.12
4x100 relay — 3rd 49.33
High Jump — Clark, 7th 5-0.25
Pole Vault — Jennifer Heller, 3rd 10-3.25
Long Jump — Gara Lacy, 1st 18-0.25
Triple Jump — Lacy, 5th 35-8.25
Shot Put — Sara Wolff, 1st 40-11
Discus — Mary Wirt, 3rd 142-9.50
Hammer — Wirt, 1st 161-0
Javelin — Wolff, 4th 119.6

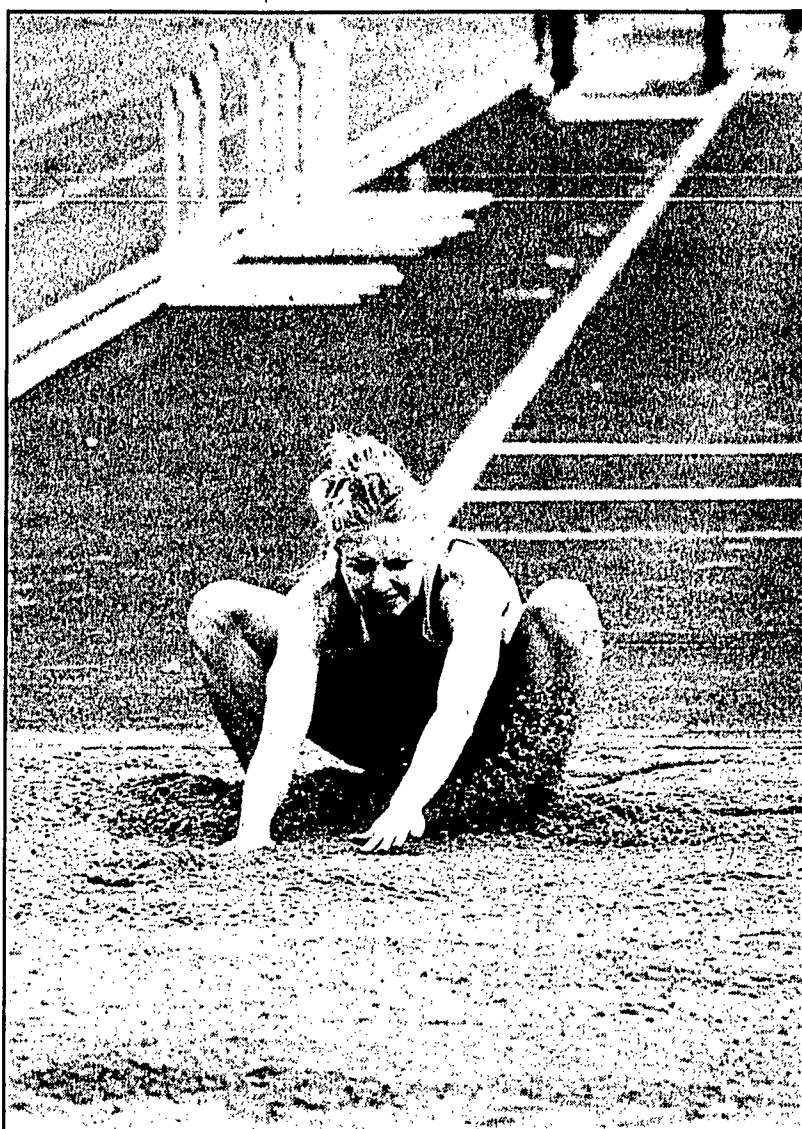


PHOTO BY MATT FRYE/CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER
Junior Mariah Clark finishes her leap in the triple jump Saturday in the Northwest Invitational. Clark finished sixth in the 400-meter dash and seventh in the high jump.

Running game shines despite injuries to O-line

By BILL KNUST
EDITOR IN CHIEF

A running game that was non-existent at times last year came to life in last Thursday's football scrimmage.

Even though the 'Cats were missing three offensive linemen that are projected to start next year (juniors Geoff Bollinger, and Kenneth Eboh and sophomore Brad Schneider), senior head coach Mel Tjeerdsma was pleased with the production on the ground.

"We ran the ball better than we did last year," Tjeerdsma said. "Does that mean we are a better running team, or is it that the defense is having trouble stopping the run? Overall, I think we are going to be a better team running the ball this year."

During the scrimmage, Tjeerdsma said a few players caught his eye and are really playing well.

"I thought Mitch Herring really performed well, and he has really responded," Tjeerdsma said. "I thought Mike Fiech performed well, too. On the defensive side, I thought Troy Thysdahl played well, and I think he continues to get better every day. Also, I thought Steve Morrison really played well."

The quarterback competition is still going strong with junior T.J. Mandl and redshirt freshman Josh Lamberson competing for the starting job.

Mandl only took part in the first series of the scrimmage. He and Lamberson rotated on every other play until the offense moved into the red zone. Then Mandl took all three snaps and delivered a touchdown pass to redshirt freshman receiver Brandon Rogers on third down.

Rogers caught the fade route over cornerback Jason Chin seven yards deep in the end zone.

"We limited T.J.; you have to understand his knee is not 100 percent yet, so his mobility isn't as good as it is going to be when he gets back to 100 percent, so we limited him to just part of the first series," Tjeerdsma said. "I thought he threw the ball well, and he really has thrown well in practice, and he has made good decisions and shown good leadership."

Tjeerdsma also had high praise for Lamberson.

"Josh has made a dramatic improvement since the end of last season. He is more confident, and he understands the offense. He is really making good decisions, and he has great mobility and a good arm."

The 'Cats will finish up spring practice with a scrimmage next Thursday at Rickenbrode Stadium. For a report and pictures of the scrimmage, check out missourianonline.com.

SOFTBALL from 1B

Team holds down third place in MIAA with win over Jennies

over Central helps the Bearcats hold steady at third place behind Truman State University and Emporia State University in the MIAA.

The Bearcats racked up 12 hits in the win. Eight hitters had at least one hit, this after a dismal game one in which the Bearcats created four errors and did not manage to a hit until the fourth inning. That led the Jennies to pick up the 3-1 victory. The Bearcats stranded 11 base runners in the loss.

"We've got to get key hits in key times," Tara Risetter said. "It was tough, but that is going to happen."

Sophomore pitcher Jacqui Handlos did her best to keep the game from getting out of hand. Twice, Handlos got out of bases-loaded jams.

However, once the first inning of game two was completed, it was apparent that there would be no repeat of game one. The Bearcats jumped out to a 3-0 lead thanks in part to RBI singles by junior Angie McCoy, Tara Risetter and her twin sister, redshirt freshman Tonja Risetter.

"After we lost the first game, coach told us to go out there with confidence," Tara Risetter said. "It just feels awesome that we were able to hit the ball."

The Bearcat's confidence in the batting lineup in game two was the key to the win, Punzo said.

"In the second game, we hit the ball

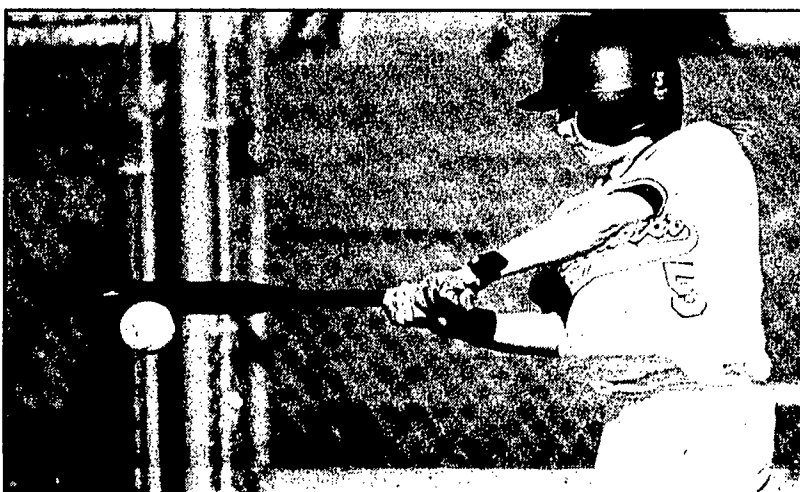


PHOTO BY BILL KNUST EDITOR IN CHIEF
Freshman outfielder Lindsay Stephenson leads game two off with a single in the Bearcat's 6-2 victory. Stephenson finished game two going two of three with a single, double, stolen base and a run.

a lot harder," Punzo said. "We were looking for good pitches and had a little more patience at the plate, and I think that was the difference."

Sophomore pitcher Shelly McDonald pitched a complete game en route to her seventh win of the season. She retired the last nine batters to end the game.

"It definitely puts you at ease to have three runs to work with," MacDonald said. "You're not under as much pressure, but you've got to be able to shut them out early in the game."

MIAA Standings		
Team	MIAA	Overall
Emporia State	4-0	22-9
Truman	4-0	19-10
Northwest	5-2	18-11
Central Mo. State	4-3	18-15
Missouri Southern	3-3	16-15
Missouri-Rolla	3-5	12-17
Missouri Western	3-5	12-20
Washburn	1-3	21-10
Pitt State	1-3	21-16
Southwest Baptist	2-6	3-19

'Hounds down LeBlond, 5-4

By CLARK GRELL
SPORTS EDITOR

The Maryville 'Hounds' tennis team found it worth playing in the cold, breezy weather Tuesday.

Maryville defeated LeBlond 5-4 despite Mother Nature not fully cooperating.

"What impressed me was the way the guys hung in there with this wind and cold," head coach Rob Veasey said. "It was good that the guys can pull through and come out with a win."

The dual came down to doubles play. Both teams went into doubles tied at three wins apiece. But Anthony

Ferry and Kellen Neilson eased through the No. 1 doubles 8-3 for the 'Hounds, and the team of Anthony Steins and Chris Douglas clinched the win for the team with an 8-5 win.

"We had crucial wins at our No. 2 doubles and our No. 1 doubles," Veasey said. "Those wins basically won the match for us. They really came through in the doubles."

Picking up wins in the singles division was Neilson, Steins and Douglas.

The 'Hounds now have two wins during the young season.

"A couple of the guys are getting the taste of victory, so hopefully, that will push them to continue to work harder," Veasey said.

SWEEP from 1B

'Cats remain three games behind CMSU

wasn't able to get a solid glove on a ground ball. Senior John Sipes had the same problem the next batter, and, along with a Teter error, Northwest found themselves up only 3-2. In each of the fifth and sixth innings, the Bearcats would score five runs. Between the two innings, Sipes picked up five RBIs.

In the sixth, with two men on,

he connected on a pitch and sent it beyond the left field wall.

Northwest came away with a 14-3 win in game one.

The second game was a classic pitchers dual. Until sophomore Marcus West and Ciaramataro each sent a pitch out in the third, the game was scoreless. Northwest came away with a 6-1 win.

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5:25 pm-Cardio / Muscle Mix

Tuesday:
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11:15 am-Step'n Pilates
5:15 pm-Muscle Mix

Friday:
5:35 am-Step - Interval
4:15 pm-Cardio - Interval

Wednesday:
5:35 am-Balance Ball'n Pilates
8:00 am-Balance Ball Sculpt
4:15 pm-Cardio-Kickboxing
5:25 pm-Total Body / Pilates

Thursday:
5:35 am-Step Groove
11:15 am-Total Body
5:15 pm-Step Interval

Saturday:
8:00 am Step'n Toning

Sunday:
4:00 pm-Body Pump



PHOTO BY KERRY JONES CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER

Maryville junior Sarah Beth Wynn works to keep the ball away from an Auburn Bulldog defender. The Hounds came away with a 10-0 win.

'Hounds pick up easy win

By COLE YOUNG
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The Maryville girls soccer team must have decided before Tuesday's game against the Auburn (Neb.) Bulldogs that if they were going to play a game in the cold weather, they may as well make it quick.

From the opening whistle, the 'Hounds dominated every facet of the game. Maryville allowed only four shots on goal the entire first half and never allowed the Bulldogs to be a serious scoring threat.

"We are playing good defense," said head coach Bayo Oludaja. "I always tell my girls that we don't want what we're doing on our end to be matched on their end. We have been working in practice on adjusting to what they bring at us."

Offensively, senior Tiffany Robertson led the scoring barrage by scoring four goals in the 10-0 win. Juniors Sarah Beth Wynn and Abby Walter scored three and two goals, respectively. Senior Carol Sutton pitched in for one goal.

Maryville scored their goals in bunches and took an 8-0 lead going into the second half.

"The defense really worked hard and got the ball up to the forwards," Robertson said. "We worked the ball around and talked well. They would cross it in, and we were there to finish it off."

it off."

In the second half, it became apparent that while Maryville had the game well in hand, they weren't going to let the second half go to waste.

"I told them at halftime, we had an opportunity to go out and work on some things in a game situation," Oludaja said. "We had a chance to slow down and see things a little bit better."

After working on their passing for nearly ten minutes, Oludaja decided he had seen enough and made the call for the offense to go back to work.

After Auburn made an attempt at scoring, Walter went the length of the field, sidestepping several Bulldog defenders on her way to scoring her second goal of the day.

"We had a lot of the younger girls get in and get some varsity time," Robertson said. That is going to make our team stronger because they are going to get a lot more experience and help us out in the future."

Even after the 10-0 win, though, Robertson said the 'Hounds still had room for improvement.

"We need to work on our one-touches. We need to get the ball and get it off of our foot quicker."

Cole Young can be contacted at 562-1224 or cyoung@missourianonline.com

OUT OF BOUNDS

Editor questions post-NCAA depression



COLE YOUNG
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

For 364 days a year, I am so happy to be a Kansas Jayhawk fan. The one day they lose in the NCAA tournament though, I have to admit, I'm usually in a pretty bad mood. This year, though, for some reason, I'm just not as upset as I usually am.

I spent all Monday night trying to figure out why I'm not upset about the Kansas loss and came up with a list of reasons why.

Maybe the first and most important reason is that, this season, I've been able to realize that basketball is just a game. After the final horn sounded, the game was over. There could be a lot worse things to happen to a college student than losing in the national championship.

In Iraq, there are thousands of college-aged students who are doing something with a little more impor-

tance than a national basketball title.

In addition to the war, I think of the possible merger between Northwest and the University of Missouri system. I know I'm way off base, but anytime I see University of Missouri in any title, I get sick to my stomach.

To be associated with MU, two things are going to have to happen.

The first, our football team is going to have to start playing about ten times worse, and Coach Tappmeyer is going to have to let his hair grow out to match Tiger coach Quin Snyder's.

Back to Kansas though, there could be a lot worse things than being a Kansas fan. At least we got knocked out by the national champions, something Creighton and Missouri can't say.

I'll give Missouri some credit, though. They did lose to Marquette, whom Kansas only beat by 33.

Creighton, on the other hand, choked. There really isn't any other way to put it. Say what you want about Kansas choking too, but did we choke to the Chippewas?

On another Kansas note, if Roy Williams does leave Kansas, I have this to say. Don't let the door hit you on the way out.

As much as I love Roy and would hate to see him leave, if he really wants to leave, let him go. Kansas is a good enough program that a good coach could come along.

Kentucky's Tubby Smith is the first coach that comes to mind. He's not happy at Kentucky, and he could keep the program at its current level.

Hopefully, he won't leave Kansas, though, and former North Carolina head coach Matt Doherty will return to the Kansas bench, and we will get to see Kansas return to the Final Four again next year.

It's a shame I'm not a NBA basketball fan, because for the next two months, all that is going to be on ESPN is the playoffs.

What is the worst about the whole NBA playoff setup is everyone already knows exactly who is going to win. No matter how hard you cheer against the Los Angeles Lakers, once the games start to matter, Shaq will show up to play.

Even worse than the guaranteed dominance by the Lakers is the fact that someone from the Eastern conference is going to have to play them for the title.

There are teams in the East that would not even be able to stay within 20 of the middle-tier teams in the west.

Oh well. No matter how good the Scot Pollard-led Sacramento Kings are, they aren't going to be able to stop the Lakers.

Then, maybe I can get my hopes up for another 365 days.

Cole Young can be contacted at 562-1224 or cyoung@missourianonline.com

Netters fall victim to ranked opponents

By BILL KNUST
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The men's and women's tennis teams ran into two highly ranked teams last weekend and were unable to pull out victories.

The men's team lost a highly anticipated match to No. 14 ranked rival Southwest Baptist University 7-2, and the women fell to No. 20 ranked Drury University 5-4.

While the men's loss looked bad, Northwest lost by only a point in the No. 2 doubles match. That match saw Baptist players Dante Cipulli and Johan Nortje defeat Northwest players senior Gorka Sanchez and junior Alen Horvat 9-8.

Northwest's No. 3 doubles team of juniors JJ Mulwanda and Lander Panera pulled out an 8-6 victory over Baptist's No. 3 doubles team. Northwest's other victory came in the No. 6 singles match where senior Jarrod Smith defeated T.J. Martin 6-0, 6-1.

The women's team had a chance to defeat No. 20 ranked Drury in the Northeastern Oklahoma Tournament but fell in a heartbreaker 5-4.

The No. 1 through No. 3 singles players for Northwest won their matches, but Northwest's No. 4 through No. 6 players suffered defeat.

The Lady Bulldogs jumped out to a 2-1 lead after they completed the doubles portion of the duel.

The 'Cats' only doubles win came in No. 1 doubles when junior Rosa Tapia and senior Adriana Hernandez defeated Drury's team of Kara Sayle and Danielle Drury. Tapia and Hernandez also picked up singles victories along with freshman Gena Lindsey.

The Northwest men are now ranked No. 35, and the women are ranked No. 39 in the country.

The men and women head to the Central Oklahoma Tournament today for the three-day event. The tournament is now in its 10th year and will feature 10 women's team and 12 men's teams.

Bill Knust can be contacted at 562-1224 or bknust@missourianonline.com

FAN PLAN

Home games

	TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Northwest baseball		Pittsburg St. 7 p.m.	Pittsburg St. (DH) 1 p.m.			Rockhurst (DH) 1 p.m.	
Northwest softball		Oklahoma City Invite	Missouri-Rolla (DH) Noon			Emporia St. (DH) 2:30 p.m.	
Northwest track & field			Concordia Invitational				Midland Lutheran Invitational
Northwest tennis			Central Oklahoma Tournament		Graceland 3 p.m.		
Maryville baseball	Cameron 4:30 p.m.	St. Pius 4:30 p.m.		Chillicothe 4:30 p.m.		Savannah 4:30 p.m.	
Maryville girls' soccer	Lafayette 4:30 p.m.	North K.C. Tournament		Benton 4:30 p.m.			
Maryville track & field		Chillicothe		Maryville Invite 4 p.m.			
Maryville boys' tennis	Benton 4:30 p.m.			Cameron 4:30 p.m.	Shelton 4:30 p.m.		

RESULTS VS. WASHBURN

Women
No. 40 Washburn 5
No. 39 Northwest 4
No. 1 Singles
Rosa Tapia (NW) d. Erin Underwood
No. 1 Doubles
Tapia/Adriana Hernandez (NW) d. Underwood/Katie Schmidt
Men
No. 36 Northwest 5
Washburn 3
No. 1 Singles
Jon Sanchez (NW) d. Sydney Bwawa
No. 1 Doubles
Sanchez/Jarrod Smith (NW) d. Tyler Kinder/Blake Edwards

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PLAYERS OF THE WEEK



Tara Risetter

Risetter went three for four with three RBIs in the softball team's 6-2 win over CMSU in game two Wednesday. She had a double and a homrun, her third of the year.

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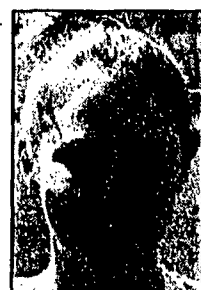
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The senior scored four goals in the Hounds' 10-0 win over the Auburn Bulldogs Tuesday.



Tiffany Robertson

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Stroller remains leery of merge

So this is what it's all come down to. I suppose I should have seen it coming. Bearcats, Tigers, they're all part of the same friggin' feline family. Either way, Your Man is still shocked beyond belief.

It's more than likely safe to assume that, when your Stroller chose Northwest Missouri State University as my "higher form of higher learning" many moons ago, I opted to spend the next six or so years here for many of the same reasons most of you, my fellow Bearcats, have.

Aside, of course, from the bangin' Maryville nightlife, I dug this school for the very platforms on which they choose to advertise it: for its personable, senile-grandmother-like atmosphere, relatively cheap tuition (at the time, of course), and a halfway decent Underwater Basket Weaving program.

But what is quite possibly Your Man's No. 1 decision in choosing Northwest is the fact that I was willing to sacrifice the experience of being educated in a culturally stimulating environment not ravaged with apathy to become not just another enrolled undergraduate, but instead, a human being.

That's right. From the beginning, Your Stroller figured that, here at Northwest, I'd be far from yet another nameless, faceless number lost in a sea of students exactly like me, no matter how creepy or unique I'd try to be. Such was the atmosphere at another school I once toured. You guessed it, winner: The University of Missouri.

Now it's learned that, thanks to an ever-so-loving-and-sensitive administration that's been proven to go out



The Stroller

of its way to actually care about the opinions of its students (smell that? Sarcasm, my friends. Hope you're used to it by now), we're probably gonna be yet another satellite of their growing empire—er—system, thanks to this probable little merger deal that reeks of disastrous AOL-Time Warner-type potential.

Allow me to momentarily digress, but a sudden thought overcomes me. Hmm...in joining the ranks of University of Missouri-Rolla, University of Missouri-Kansas City, University of Missouri...well, you get the picture, we'd technically be the University of Missouri-Maryville.

UMM. I dunno. Doesn't quite have the joyous ring as promised by our administration.

Don't get me wrong, the plan all sounds good on paper, as it also did from the smooth tongues of dear old Hubbyzy-wubby and Floyd whatever-his-name-is at Monday's town hall meeting. With expanded graduate programs up the wazoo, a whole bunch of new technological crap that can further confuse the hell out of me, and, Lord willing, a bit of a financial break, there probably are more than a few benefits that will make this Northwest better than it

was before.

But is it worth selling out?

As most spoiled kids do, we all piss and moan about Northwest, but it goes without saying that most of us do like it here. That's why we're here. In fact, if we wanted to go to another school within our financial and academic range, such as the University of Missouri, it's pretty easy to deduce that we'd be there.

In further skepticism, just what will they get out of this from us? Our academic programs, which, in comparison, the University of Missouri system uses to mop the floor? Our spectacular architecture? The arboretum? That's it. They only love us for our trees.

Perhaps I'm wrong, as I so frequently am. The past, however, has shown your Stroller that refusing to put trust in many, particularly middle-aged men in expensive suits who keep a huge plan that will undoubtedly affect my future in a shroud of secrecy for a very long time before promising me the world for nothing in return, has gotten Your Man much further than taking their hand as it leads me to certain disaster.

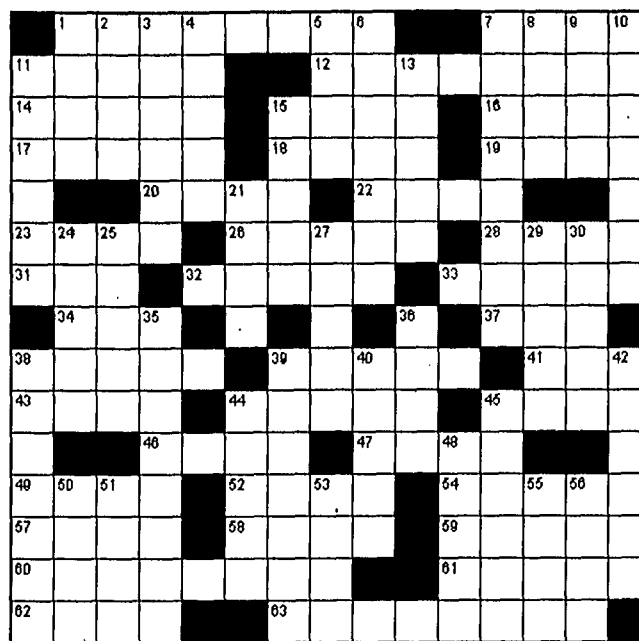
But, you know, whatever. This is probably for the better. I'll join the ranks, give up the ranting and put my faith in President Hubbard and the rest of those in charge of my future to make the right decision.

But wait, I guess that title would now be Chancellor Hubbard, wouldn't it?

Like UMM, it sure has a nice ring to it.

The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of The Northwest Missourian.

WEEKLY CROSSWORD



Across

1. Exercises
7. US polar explorer
11. Sweatbox
12. Period of time filled with boredom
14. Greek philosopher
15. State (abbrev.)
16. Art movement
17. Something that is put in
18. Large mop
19. Male name
20. Breathe convulsively
22. To yield

23. Fancy that
26. Humped ruminant
28. Pipe
31. Expression of distaste
32. Fledged
33. Stupefy with drink
34. Metallic element
37. Floor covering
38. Sum
39. Secret organization
41. Brazilian seaport
43. Price paid
44. Well-founded
45. Vomit
46. First son of Adam and Eve

47. Regent
49. Christian body for young women
52. Models
54. Jewish scholar
57. South-eastern Asian republic
58. Tense
59. Exhausted
60. Interwork
61. Loud, resonant sound
62. Tax
63. Implies

Down

1. Physical suffering
2. Hind part

3. Adequate
4. Peruvian river
5. Agricultural implement
6. Comforted
7. One who estimates future expenses
8. 365 days
9. Uncouth
10. Trawl
11. Niggardly
13. Dynamite inventor
15. TV channel
21. Strike breaker
24. Get the better of
25. Slides
27. Decoration
29. Encroach
30. Wheel assembly
35. Imbeciles
36. Travel on
38. Glassy thermoplastic
39. Madmen
40. Being before all others
42. Possessing
44. Prospect
45. Carrels
48. Elegance
50. Decline
51. Fingerstalls
53. Skirt worn by ballerinas
55. Make a loud noise
56. Stores

on the edge

Facts about mergers:

■ Thomas Edison originally formed the Edison Electric Light Company in 1878. Through several mergers and acquisitions over the decades, the company has grown into what is now General Electric.

■ Karl Benz of Germany is credited with inventing the first automobile in 1885. The automobile had an internal combustion engine and three wheels. In 1926, Benz merged his company with that of fellow German auto creator Gustave Daimler to form Mercedes-Benz.

■ RKO stands for Radio-Keith-Orpheum, formed by the merger of RCA and the Keith-Orpheum theater chain in 1921.

■ The U.S. Lighthouse Service merged with the U.S. Coast Guard on July 7, 1939.

■ Easter is a convergence of three traditions: Pagan, Hebrew, and Christian.

■ The female anglerfish is six times larger than her mate. The male anchors himself to the top of her head and stays there for the rest of his life. They literally become one. Their digestive and circulatory systems are merged. Except for two very large generative organs and a few fins, nothing remains of the male.

Source: uselesknowledge.com

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April 10 Jagermeister Music Tour
Uptown Theatre

April 13 Tim McGraw
Kemper Arena

April 11 Dionne Warwick
Ameristar Casino

April 10 Joe Cocker
Ameristar Hotel

Des Moines

April 10 Allison Krauss
Civic Center

April 17 Red Elvises
House of Bricks

April 10 Donny Osmond
Civic Center

April 19 Dwight Yoakam
Hoyt Sherman Theatre

Omaha

April 19 OK Go
Ranch Bowl

April 19 Cat Power
Sokol Underground

April 19 The Donnas
Ranch Bowl

April 23 Todd Barry
Funny Bone

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